An Illustrated History of the V&T's Reno Yard



2017 Virginia and Truckee Railroad History Conference

By Curtis Reid

Special thanks to:

Mike Collins
Stephen Drew
The University of Nevada Special
Collections

Location:

Downtown Reno; just South of the Truckee River:

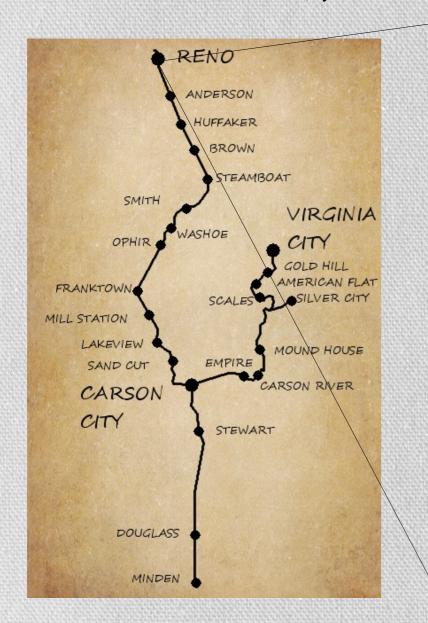




Image courtesy Bing Maps

Reno Background

- 1850s: Pioneers begin to settle the Truckee Meadows
- 1859: Charles Fuller builds a bridge across the Truckee River
- 1861: Fuller sells the bridge to Myron Lake; who develops 'Lake's Crossing'
- 1868: Reno founded by the Central Pacific
- 1871: Reno becomes the Washoe County seat
- 1871: The V&T starts building from Reno



- Construction started
- Bridge; engine house; blacksmith shop built



- 50' diameter gallows A-frame turntable built
- Tracks completed to Carson



- Water tank built
 - Also the pump house
- Wood siding built



- Trestle is filled in
- Bridges get stone abutments



Engine house has bracing by now



- 138' Steel bridge replaces the older Howe truss
- Buildings are likely caboose red with green roofs by now



• Turntable reinforced for first No. 25



- Bunkhouse, rear shed added by now
 - Likely some time between 1890 and now



- Engine house shortened
- Turntable replaced with 57' iron table
- Wood track siding is removed around now

1909 (proposed)



- New roundhouse; larger yards
- Likely this proposal was in support of a lawsuit against the city of Reno around the connection

of 2 and Scott Stroots

1909 (actual)



nd

- 2 street crossing and bridge built
- Coach siding likely built by now
- · Oil shed is now present on the east wall

By 1916



- Coach siding shortened; 685' long
- 2 smoke jack and roof walks gone
- Engine house appears to have larger eaves

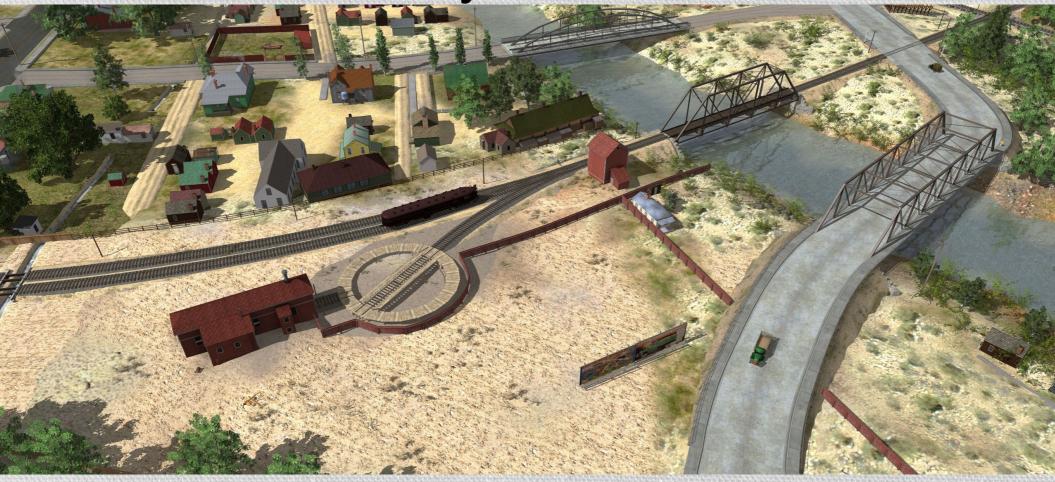


 Yard buildings painted; probably with red roofs now



- Engine house roof is hipped
 - - Also some trim added above the windows?
- Engine house and water tank are painted (again!)

By 1928



nd

- 2 Street crossing gates are gone
- Bridge 1b is gone
- Blacksmith shop is gone (retired 1924)



• Sunshine Laundry opens (land sold in 1929)



Wall trim on engine house is red by now

By 1948



Construction Car No. 6 (2) is on the ground

nd

- Taken out of service 1942
- Rear door on engine house



- Engine house burns down
- Railroad is abandoned
- While being dismantled, the bridge washes away in Thanksgiving flood